

Claims:

1. System for continuous treatment, such as dyeing, drying, steaming or fixation of a textile web of fabric (1) that has free longitudinal edges (2) and is guided stretched in the longitudinal direction (3) of the web, in which turning over of the longitudinal edges (2) is suppressed by means of placement of staples (8), using staple fingers (10 to 12) that lie alternately on the two web surfaces (22, 23), next to one another in the plane of the web of fabric (1), **characterized by** a staple shooting device (17) with a staple magazine (15), which is assigned to the longitudinal edge (2), in each instance, at a location of the system in which the edge normally has not turned over yet.
2. System according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the staple shooting device (17) consists of a staple slide or striking pin (18) for shooting the staple (8) out in the direction (19) of the web edge (2), assigned to a staple position in the magazine (15).
3. System according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** a pneumatic or hydraulic cylinder (24) is provided for activating the slide or striking pin (18).

4. System according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** a catapult, preferably one that is biased mechanically, is provided for activating the slide or striking pin (18).
5. System according to claim 1, **characterized by** effective means (21) of a staple spreading device (17) for spreading adjacent staple fingers (10 to 12) alternately towards the upper and lower side (22, 23) of the web of fabric (1), before placement onto the longitudinal edge (2).
6. System according to at least one of claims 1 to 5, **characterized in that** manual activation of the staple shooting device (17), preferably from a distance, for example from the console of the machine operator, is provided.
7. System according to at least one of claims 1 to 5, **characterized in that** automatic activation of the staple-shooting device (17) by means of an edge sensor is provided.
8. System according to at least one of claims 1 to 7, **characterized in that** the staple back (9) possesses a notch (28) at least on its front side edge (26, 27), and that a pin (29) is set in fixed manner at a distance from the

longitudinal edge (2), for automatic pulling of the staple (8), which pin engages into the notch (28) as the staple (8) passes by, and holds the staple (8) in place as well as pulls it off the web (1).

9. System according to claim 8, **characterized in that** the staple (8) automatically pulled off the web (1) gets into a magazine (15) by way of a funnel (31) and a slide (32), ordered in oriented manner.
10. System according to at least one of claims 1 to 9, **characterized in that** means, preferably sensor-controlled means, are provided for allowing follow of the staple shooting device (17) and/or the pin (29) in case of lateral progression of the web (1) - progression crosswise to the transport direction (3) - or in case of changing web widths.
11. Method for operating the system according to at least one of claims 1 to 10, **characterized in that** shooting of the staple (8) onto the edge (2), in a direction (19) crosswise to the web transport direction (3), takes place at a greater speed as compared with the transport speed.

12. Method according to claim 11, characterized in that placement of the staple (8), in each instance, takes place until contact (14) occurs between two fingers (10 to 12) on the staple back (9).